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Things to Do and to Know.

The pear delights in a deep, rich, warm loam, with a clay subsoil.

Flow orchards in the fall. It is better to do in the spring, though, than not at all.

Treat the cows kindly. Harsh treatment will make them hold up their milk and dry themselves up.

Increasing cows should have a limited diet of dry hay, with a little bran, for a few weeks previous to calving.

A steer was lately taken to the Cincinnati market that weighed 4,250 pounds. It was 6 years old, and was reared near Decatur, Ind.

The cherry grows best in a rich, warm, sandy loam. If a much of leaves, straw or brush is put around them they will be very much benefited by it.

Arizona has grass enough to feed 5,000,000 cattle, but most of it can be made no use of because there is no water. Artesian wells will probably remedy this difficulty.

Select the calm, steady hand and horses to work in the orchard; the cross, petulant, revengeful, malicious man should be kept away from the orchard. Tree murderers are sadly too numerous.

The Ohio Agricultural Experiment station calls attention to the fact that in its experiments potatoes raised from large, whole seed ripened nine days earlier than those from seed cut to single eyes.

A writer in Colman's Rural World says that there has not been a better time in many years than this is for going into the wool growing business. It is a business scarcely necessary to remind you of, that the time to buy is when every one wants to sell. No one need fear that wool growing will go out of fashion in this country permanently, for it never will.

The Old Home and the New.



THE OLD.

It is our design in this column to further the cause of rural architecture as far as may be. In our new country there is great need of beautifying the landscape. The contrast between America and Europe in this respect would not be believed by one who had not seen both countries. Besides, if anybody deserves both a pretty and comfortable home it is the farmer, who raises bread for man. He should feel his own dignity. In one sense he cannot set too high a value on himself. In our happy land, no matter how poor the farmer starts, if he has ordinary good sense, health, and luck, he can make himself comfortably well off by the time he is middle-aged. In brief, though he starts in life in such a home as that at the head of this article, he will be able to end peaceful, honorable days in a home like the one below.



THE NEW.

Such an attractive home will be doubly enjoyed, because it will be the fruits of his own industry and economy. The handsome cottage above represented is not expensive. If the agriculturist has that invaluable aid, the farm workshop, he can do considerable of the work himself, and make the best of this house, as represented, not over \$2,000. It may be of either brick or frame, as is most convenient. It has a cellar seven feet deep on the clear, with a concrete floor three inches thick; stone foundation. The first story of the house is nine feet six inches high, the second nine feet. We give ground plan of first floor. The second contains three airy chambers, with hall. This pretty six-room cottage commands itself both to the eye and the sense of comfort.

Menu and Programme.

A New York musical critic sees a parallel between the menu placed beside the diner's plate and the programme of a concert. Beethoven and Bach, for example, furnish the sturdy beef. Mendelssohn the tender mutton. Schubert and Schumann the side dishes. Rubinstein the relishes, and other composers the remaining courses and dessert.

Tempering the Storm.

According to a French scientist the force of storms can be lessened by placing a large number of lightning rods on the telegraph poles along railway lines.

Twenty-two of the great sugar plantations of the island of Cuba are farmed by the Jesuit order.

An Advocate's Strategy.

(San Francisco Advocate.)

Maitre Lachand, the famous advocate, was France's greatest master of comedy in the law, and not a few eminent actors envied him his marvelous mimic powers. He was once employed to defend a murderer, against whom the facts were hopelessly clear. When his pathetic appeals and his tears—which were always at call when he pleaded before a country jury—failed to touch his stolid audience, he resorted to the most impudent piece of broad farce. Thrusting his moistened white handkerchief into his pocket, he demanded if the jurors were men, if they had human hearts, if they could bring themselves to condemn a fellowman like the accused, whom he had credited with all sorts of chivalrous, if not saintly, merits. His eloquence was not merely fruitless, but the jury responded to it at first with uneasy shuffling, then with biting of lips, and, finally, with loud and uncontrolled bursts of laughter.

Lachand, while flinging his hands, had intentionally dipped his fingers in the great ink-pot in front of him, and as he drew his right hand across his forehead, as if in an agony of despair at the certain fate of the accused, he left upon his brow an enormous black mark like a crescent moon, and drew other black traces down his cheeks as he put his fingers to his eyes to dash away the tears. Feigning high moral indignation at their conduct, he continued: You are about to decide whether one of your fellow-men shall be thrust by you out of the ranks of the living, and you choose such a moment for indulging in cruel and thoughtless laughter. Is this extravagant mirth a fitting mood in which to decide whether a man shall or shall not die? The argument actually told upon the jury. The man was acquitted.

What He Got by It.

(Arkansas Traveler.)
"Come mighty nigh, killin' a fine buck dis mornin'," said an old negro.

"Comin' long through de woods an' er ole buck he jump up an' bookery, bookery he run off a few yards an' stop still. Come in one or shooin' him, sah!"

"Why didn't you shoot?"

"Didn't hab my gun wid me, sah."

"Then how did you come in one of shootin' him?"

"Case, sah, I come in one o' takin' my gun wid me."

"Why didn't you take your gun?"

"Didn't hab none, sah."

"You are an ole fool."

"Look heah, doan' 'buse er man dat way when yer ain't got no cause. I ain't got no gun, fur a feller dat I wuz about fer buy one from, axed me jes' \$1.00, I could pay. So I come in one o' gettin' de gun. Ef I had er got it, I would er tuck it 'long wid me, an' ef I der had it, I could er shot de buck easy, sah. So doan come 'round' 'boutin' man when de facts are all erger yin. I hab knowed folks ter fetch trouble on dar selves dat way. Er pussion oughter be keeful in dis heah 'world' o' speckulation. Good mornin', sah. Since yer's acted dis way, I wouldenter gin yer none o' de meat if I had er killed it. Fore yer talked dat way I woulder made yer present o' some o' de buck. See what yer got by it, sah."

Jewish Diet and Cholera.

(American Hebrew.)
The comparative immunity of Jews from the worst results of epidemics is still occupying the attention of European journals. The London Echo has the following:

"One noticeable feature about Jewish cemeteries in the south of Europe is the scarcity of newly made graves after an epidemic of cholera or yellow fever. Statistics show that fewer of them die than any other race from these or kindred diseases. During the late cholera scourge in Toulon only two orthodox Jews died of it, while in numbers they equaled fully 20 per cent. of the population. Their immunity from the disease, and the certainty with which they recover when attacked by it, is accounted for by the simplicity of their diet."

"Our friends of the 'advanced' school, who think that dietary laws are all nonsense, and 'kitchen Judaism' a superstition, will not feel so comfortable when they recall their sins of commission and omission by the light of the advancing cholera. Now is the time for them to return to the olden fare, to discard shell-fish, those scavengers of the ocean, and see to the proper preparation of the animal food generally admitted to their tables. Errors of diet are the most prolific causes of cholera attacks in the times of epidemic."

An Auger to Bore a Square Hole.

(Cleveland Herald.)
The first and only auger ever manufactured that will bore a square hole is now in the shops of the Cleveland Machine company. This auger bores a two inch square hole, the size used in ordinary frame buildings and barns, but they can be made on the same principle to bore square holes of any size. Its application is ordinary and works on the same principle as round-hole augers. Its end, instead of having a screw or bit, has a cam motion which oscillates a cutter mounted on a steel rocking-knife which cuts on both sides.

In order to prevent the splintering of the wood the ends of the cutter are provided with small semi-circular shaped saws which help in cutting out perfectly square corners. It is estimated that this new process will save the labor of three men who work with chisels, as one man can conveniently cut a two-inch mortise in the same length of time he can bore a round hole. The invention is the work of a Wooster man who has given the subject years of patient thought.

The "Explorers' Trip."

(Argonaut "Storyettes.")
Several members of a boat club at Frankfort-on-the-Main recently resolved to row to Mayence by night. It was just 12 o'clock when they seated themselves in their boat, grasped their oars, and bade their friends on shore farewell. They pulled vigorously all night, greatly enjoying the healthful exercise, the gloom and quiet, and the weird beauty of the river. Their own chagrin and the wild delight of their friends may be imagined when they found at sunrise they had for gotten to weigh anchor, and were still fast to the float from which they had embarked. They are now known to all Frankfort as the "explorers."

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